

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for positioning sleeve down hole in a hydrocarbon producing well. A running assembly with associated sleeve is run down a hydrocarbon producing well until the sleeve is in a desired positioned in a conduit. The sleeve is expanded until it sealingly engages the conduit. Pressure is maintained within the sleeve until the seals of holding the pressure sequentially fail to expand the ends of the sleeve. When a preset pressure threshold is reached, the pressure is relieved. The running assembly is then pulled back through the expanded sleeve to surface. A major advantage of this method is that the expanded sleeve provides sufficient internal clearance that a further sleeve of the same size as the original may, in future, be passed through the expanded sleeve and positioned lower down in the well.